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AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE

Results of Work Group Sessions

February 7-8, 1979

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Co-sponsored by:

ACTION

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Community Services Administration and

United States Department of Agriculture

February 1979

EXECUTIVE CC

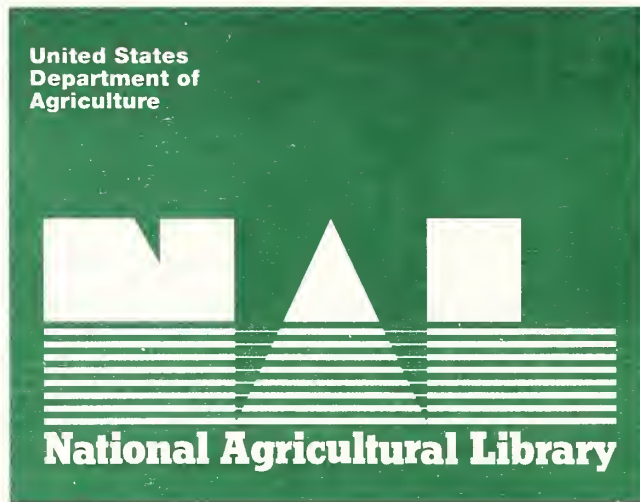
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Dale E. Hathaway, Assistant Secretary for
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National Tribal Chairman's Association
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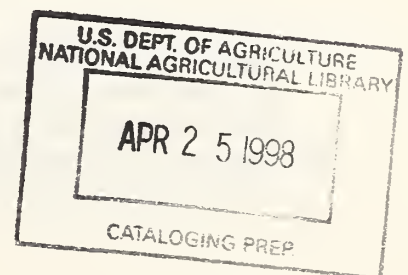


American Indian and Alaska Native Agricultural Conference

ACTION, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Community Services Administration (CSA), and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in cooperation with the National Congress of American Indians and the National Tribal Chairman's Association, are sponsoring this national American Indian and Alaska Native Agricultural Conference. The conference is designed to:

- Provide participants an opportunity to identify problems specific to Indian and Alaska Native agriculture.
- Develop priority needs and recommendations to government agencies to help meet these needs.
- Familiarize participants with programs from the sponsoring agencies and other government agencies cooperating in the development of the conference.

Follow-up from the conference will include a summary report focusing on the high priority problems discussed at the conference and the recommendations made by the delegates. This information will be used to guide ACTION, CSA, BIA and USDA as the basis for new legislation and changes in regulations and procedures of present programs to benefit Indians and Alaska Natives.





American Indian and Alaska Native Agricultural Conference

NOTES



Opportunities For Indians In Agriculture

SAM BROWN, Director of ACTION

At ACTION we are committed to the belief that both our rural and urban communities will be revitalized when we adopt policies and procedures smaller in scale than those now associated with our government. This commitment to smallness embraces concepts such as developing technologies more useful to Indian agricultural needs, developing community-organized programs that rely more on people's energy and imagination than money, and scaling the government down to make it more responsive to the best interests of its citizens.

We view this conference primarily as a "listening post" to identify volunteer programs and initiatives that will provide American Indians and Alaska Natives a means to achieve self-sufficiency.

FORREST GERARD, Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs,
Department of Interior

This meeting of Indian and Alaska Native farmers and ranchers offers a unique opportunity for the sponsoring Federal agencies to learn from you about the effectiveness of their agricultural-related programs.

We need the practical guidance that only you can give us to help us improve our programs.

We want to be truly responsive to your needs and your situations. We want our programs to be as simple, uncomplicated and directly helpful as possible.

Your comments and discussion will provide guidelines which the Bureau of Indian Affairs will use to review what it is now doing and to plan new efforts.

We are very pleased that the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Department of Agriculture, ACTION and the Community Services Administration are working together with the National Tribal Chairmen's Association and the National Congress of American Indians in sponsoring this conference. This kind of cooperation can enable all of us to function more efficiently.

GRACIELA OLIVAREZ, Director of Community Services Administration

Though Indian lands encompass 50 million acres over 200 reservations in 26 states, much of that land remains underdeveloped because most Indian people and tribal governments are poor and lack adequate access to capital and technical assistance. As the federal anti-poverty agency the Community Services Administration has a definite interest in listening to and learning from the conferees as they specify concerns and recommend actions. Armed with this information, CSA can better work with other federal agencies and Indian and Alaska Native people to fashion effective agricultural strategies reflective of Indian Self-Determination.

BOB BERGLAND, Secretary of Agriculture

For too long American Indians and Alaska Natives have been ignored and forgotten in the planning of agricultural programs for the nation. I am committed to improve USDA programs to better serve Indians and Alaska Natives.

We believe that American Indians and Alaska Natives engaged in agriculture are basic to a healthy Indian economy.

We believe that American Indians and Alaska Natives are entitled to participate equally in USDA programs with all farmers. If some problems are specific to Indian and Native Alaska agriculture, then we will address these problems in that context.

We will be listening to the Indian delegates attending this national conference and to their suggestions and recommendations. Then, we will initiate follow-up action where we can identify changes that need to be made to help American Indians and Alaska Natives.

RUPERT CUTLER, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for
Conservation, Research and Education

Our conservation, research and education programs are designed to aid all farmers. However, we are not reaching enough American Indians and Alaska Natives engaged in agriculture with conservation assistance and research information.

Do Indians working in agriculture need conservation and research programs different from the average U.S. farmer?

Do we need a different educational approach to reach and teach Indians?

We expect the conference of American Indian and Alaska Native delegates to help answer these and related questions, with an indication of priority needs. Then, we can propose and move ahead with administrative and legislative changes.

DALE HATHAWAY, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for
International Affairs and Commodity Programs

The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service conducts the USDA farm program for cost sharing programs with all farmers that install needed soil, water, workland and wildlife conserving practices. We will be very interested to see what the Indian Conference can identify in the cost sharing programs that should be changed to better serve Indians and Alaska Natives.

ASCS is responsible for commodity support operations through loans to farmers, direct purchases of commodities from farmers and processors, and production payments for wool and mohair. All programs are carried out through state, county and community committees.

ALEX MERCURE, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development

The Department of Agriculture has rural development programs such as loan programs of the Farmers Home Administration which are designed to aid both Indians and non-Indians. We anticipate this conference will identify any inadequacies in programs that will help us make them more accessible for the American Indian and the Alaska Native.

Listening to the Indian men and women delegates at this conference is an opportunity for the Secretary of Agriculture and his staff to have input from the people actually working in agriculture at the tribal level. Indians have special problems related to ownership of land and how to use USDA's programs. We will make every effort to study recommendations for change and initiate needed programs.

HOWARD HJORT, Director of Economics, Policy Analysis and Budget

Information gathered from these regional conferences will help USDA's Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service improve Federal agricultural data systems to better serve the needs of Indians. In addition, more knowledge about the characteristics and needs of the Indian and his/her family will help Department officials improve programs to increase family income from both farm and nonfarm sources.

Besides research, the Economics, Statistics and Cooperatives Service provides technical assistance to help farmers market their products and purchase supplies cooperatively. We hope that what we learn from this Conference will enable us to make these programs more useful to the American Indian and the Alaska Native.

We are committed to making every effort to see that our work serves the interest of farmers.



American Indian and Alaska Native Agricultural Conference

PROBLEM RATINGS: Delegates in their working groups rated the importance of the problems they identified on a scale of 1 to 5. A "5" meant the problem was of utmost importance. A "1" indicated lowest importance. A zero rating, or no rating at all, meant the delegate had no opinion. The problem ratings shown below are averages of the delegates' ratings.

WORKING GROUP I FORESTRY

| <u>PROBLEM RANK</u> | <u>PROBLEM DESCRIPTION</u> | <u>AVERAGE PROBLEM RATING</u> |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | LACK OF FUNDING FOR FOREST MANAGEMENT (IN ALL AREAS). | 4.30 |
| 2 | CUTTING PLANS TO MAINTAIN RECREATION AREA AND NOT DISTURB HUNTING AND FISH- ING MUST PRACTICE WISE MULTIPLE USE. | 4.20 |
| 3 | PROBLEMS WITH BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS - LACK OF FUNDS, UNFILLED POSITIONS, LOW MORALE, SINGLE USE APPROACH, NO RESEARCH ORGANIZATION, TRIBAL AND BIA ROLE UNDEFINED. | 4.10 |
| 4 | NEED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ACQUIRE PROPER HARVESTING EQUIPMENT IN ROUGH TERRAIN. | 4.00 |
| 5 | NEED BETTER EDUCATION OF TRIBAL MEM- BERS IN RESOURCE AREA. | 4.00 |
| 6 | NEED FOR OTHER FOREST PRODUCTS - CHRISTMAS TREES ETC. | 3.80 |
| 7 | MAKING PREPARATIONS FOR A PROPOSED SAWMILL. | 3.75 |
| 8 | SECURING SKILLED INDIAN PERSONNEL FOR MANAGEMENT OF ALL FOREST RESOURCES. | 3.70 |

FORESTRY (Cont'd)

| | | |
|----|---|------|
| 9 | CHOOSING METHOD OF HARVESTING, I.E. SELL STUMPAGE, LEASE, SELL LOGS, SELL FINISHED PRODUCTS. | 3.63 |
| 10 | CONFLICT OF INTEREST BETWEEN TRIBAL POLICY AND ALL OTHER POLICY. (I.E. FEDERAL, STATE, OTHER INFLUENCES). | 3.44 |
| 11 | FEDERAL PROGRAMS DO NOT RECOGNIZE SPECIAL STATUS SOVEREIGNTY OF TRIBES. | 3.22 |
| 12 | NEED FOR FORESTRY COOPERATIVES TO HELP SMALL TRIBES. | 3.20 |
| 13 | RESEEDING PROBLEMS-LACK OF SEED. | 3.10 |
| 14 | MOVING FOREST PRODUCTS FROM ISLANDS TO MAINLAND. | 3.00 |
| 15 | TRIBAL STUMPAGE NOT ON PAR WITH STUMPAGE RATES OFF RESERVATION. | 2.90 |
| 16 | FIRE PROBLEMS (SUPPRESSION) IN ROUGH TERRAIN. | 2.89 |
| 17 | SLASH BURNING PROBLEM. | 2.88 |
| 18 | PROBLEM OF D-2 LEGISLATION ON ALASKA LANDS. | 2.70 |
| 19 | LACK OF ENFORCEMENT OF ROAD STANDARDS IN BIA MANAGED SALES. | 2.60 |
| 20 | COMPETITION WITH LIVESTOCK GRAZING AND TREE RESEEDING. | 2.44 |



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WORKING GROUP II RANCHING AND LIVESTOCK

| <u>PROBLEM RANK</u> | <u>PROBLEM DESCRIPTION</u> | <u>AVERAGE PROBLEM RATING</u> |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | PROPOSE CABINET LEVEL POST FOR INDIANS TO MAKE ALL FEDERAL AGENCIES MORE RESPONSIVE TO THE TRUST RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO THE INDIAN PEOPLE. | 4.77 |
| 2 | NEED TO ESTABLISH USDA OFFICES FOR TRIBES ON INDIAN LANDS, WITH DIRECT LINES TO SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE. | 4.54 |
| 3 | AGRICULTURAL LAND USE PLANNING GRANT FUNDS ARE NEEDED FOR: A) INDIVIDUAL INDIAN LANDOWNERS, B) TRIBES, C) CATTLE ASSOCIATIONS, D) TRIBAL ENTERPRISES, E) INDIAN LAND LEASEES. | 4.46 |
| 4 | NEED FOR LONG-TERM LOW INTEREST FINANCING FOR LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS AND FARMERS. | 4.38 |
| 5 | NEED INFORMATION ON EXPORTING OF LIVESTOCK OR BEEF, AND OTHER FARM PRODUCTS AND INCLUDING OTHER MARKET INFORMATION | 4.31 |
| 6 | NEED FOR AGRI-BUSINESS LOW-INTEREST/ LONG-TERM FINANCING FOR INDUSTRIES AS FEEDLOTS, SLAUGHTER HOUSES, ETC. (WITH FORGIVENESS CLAUSE). | 4.23 |
| 7 | FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS MUST BE MORE RECEPTIVE TO INDIAN FINANCIAL NEEDS. EXAMPLES: BIA, FHA, SBA, BANKS, PCA, AND FEDERAL LAND BANK. | 4.23 |

RANCHING AND LIVESTOCK (cont'd)

| | | |
|----|---|------|
| 8 | ENCOURAGE TRIBES TO INCLUDE WATER USE IN THEIR LONG-RANGE PLANNING STRATEGIES, AND TO ISSUE WATER PERMITS. | 4.23 |
| 9 | WHY IS THERE A RAPID RISE IN INTEREST RATES FOR AGRICULTURAL LOANS? | 4.17 |
| 10 | BETTER AND MORE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE AGRICULTURAL AGENCIES DELIVERING SERVICES FOR INDIAN FARMERS, INCLUDING ADEQUATE FUNDING. | 4.15 |
| 11 | AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION AND ACCESS TO EMERGENCY LIVESTOCK FEED PROGRAMS ON A TIMELY-BASIS. | 4.08 |
| 12 | BIA IS NOT RESPONSIVE TO THE LEGITIMATE NEEDS OF THE INDIAN PEOPLE IN AGRICULTURE. | 4.08 |
| 13 | NEED OF FINANCING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR DEVELOPING AVAILABLE INDIAN LANDS. | 3.92 |
| 14 | THE NEED FOR DISEASE AND HEALTH CONTROL IN LIVESTOCK. | 3.92 |
| 15 | THE NEED FOR QUALIFIED LIVESTOCK RANCH MANAGEMENT. | 3.83 |
| 16 | TO RE-ENACT THE ACP COST SHARE FENCE PROGRAM OF ASSCS, SPECIFICALLY, DIVISION AND BOUNDARY FENCES. | 3.83 |
| 17 | THE NEED OF RETAINING AND TRAINING SEASONAL LIVESTOCK LABOR FORCE. | 3.73 |
| 18 | THE NEED FOR VETERINARIAN SERVICES AND PARA-PROFESSIONAL VETS AND TRAINING. | 3.67 |
| 19 | A NEED FOR MORE SOLID CONTRACTS FOR LEASES WITH LONGER TERMS, AND A SLIDING SCALE BASED ON PRODUCT PRODUCED. | 3.67 |
| 20 | THE NEED FOR GRANT FUNDS TO STUDY AND ENACT A HEIFER SPAYING PROGRAM TO OFFSET BUILD-UP IN CATTLE NUMBERS. | 3.50 |



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WORKING GROUP III TRIBAL FARMING

| <u>PROBLEM RANK</u> | <u>PROBLEM DESCRIPTION</u> | <u>AVERAGE PROBLEM RATING</u> |
|-------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | ADMINISTRATIVE RED TAPE AT ALL LEVELS DELAYS FUNDS IN REACHING TRIBES. BIA APPROVAL TOO SLOW. | 5.00 |
| 2 | WHY DOES OMB MAKE IT NECESSARY TO "GO THROUGH STATE" TO BE DECLARED AS A DISASTER AREA. | 5.00 |
| 3 | NEED MANAGEMENT AND SPECIAL SKILLS TRAINING (AGRI-BUSINESS). | 4.91 |
| 4 | NEED FUNDS FOR (A) DEVELOPMENT, (B) OP- ERATIONS, (C) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAMS AND (D) EQUIP- MENT PURCHASES. | 4.73 |
| 5 | FMHA AND SBA EMERGENCY LOAN PROGRAM DON'T SERVE TRIBES. REGULATIONS OR LAWS NEED TO BE CHANGED. | 4.73 |
| 6 | HARD TO GET LOANS AND BONDING BECAUSE BANKS, ETC., ARE UNWILLING TO LEND ON TRUST LANDS BECAUSE OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY. | 4.64 |
| 7 | FEDERAL AGENCIES REGULATE LAND USE OFTEN RESULTING IN NO CONSIDERATION FOR THE TRIBE OR INDIVIDUAL INDIANS. INADEQUATE BIA STAFF TO MANAGE INDIAN LANDS. | 4.64 |
| 8 | NEED BETTER PEST (INCLUDING GRASS- HOPPER) AND RODENT CONTROL. | 4.64 |

TRIBAL FARMING (Cont'd)

| | | |
|----|--|------|
| 9 | FMHA LOAN REQUIREMENTS ARE TOO COMPLICATED. THEY PROVIDE "TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE." | 4.55 |
| 10 | FMHA REQUIRES INDIAN FARMER TO GO THROUGH HOSTILE, NON-INDIAN COMMITTEE: A) NON-ACCESS TO COMMITTEE B) NEED SUCCESSFUL TRACK RECORD C) ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS TOO RESTRICTIVE. | 4.45 |
| 11 | MORITORIUM ON LOAN FUNDS THROUGH INDIAN FINANCING ACT. BECAUSE OF INCONSISTANT POLICIES ON DELINQUENT LOANS, PROGRAM NOT PROPERLY FUNDED. | 4.36 |
| 12 | CHECKER BOARD DECLARATION OF LAND CREATES INEFFICIENCY FOR OPERATIONS AND CONSOLIDATION. | 4.36 |
| 13 | HEIRSHIP POLICY CREATES PROBLEM IN FINANCING, LEASING, PROBATE RULES (INCLUDING NON-INDIAN HEIRS) AND AND REGULATIONS. | 4.36 |
| 14 | COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICES NOT REACHING INDIAN FARMERS IN SOUTH DAKOTA, WASHINGTON, AND MONTANA. | 4.09 |
| 15 | NEED TO CONSOLIDATE OWNERSHIP PROVIDING FOR LARGER OWNERS TO REDUCE PAPER WORK IN ALLOTMENTS, JURISDICTION, IRRIGATION RIGHT-OF-WAY BY REDUCING FRAGMENTATION SO TRIBE CAN RECEIVE BENEFIT. | 3.64 |
| 16 | PRODUCTS RAISED BY NON-INDIAN ARE COMPETING WITH INDIAN RAISED PRODUCTS BY IMPROPER IDENTIFICATION AND ADVERTISING, E.G.: IMITATION WILD RICE. | 3.64 |



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WORKING GROUP IV INDIVIDUAL FARMING

| PROBLEM RANK | PROBLEM DESCRIPTION | AVERAGE PROBLEM RATING |
|-----------------|--|------------------------------|
| 1 | NEED BETTER COMMUNICATIONS FLOW OF USDA PROGRAMS AVAILABLE AND PLUS MORE LOCAL INDIAN REPRESENTATION. | 3.86 |
| 2 | NEED MORE EDUCATIONAL EMPHASIS WITH OPEN LINES OF COMMUNICATION ON CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN AGRICULTURE AND RELATED INDUSTRIES AS IT APPLIES TO COURSES, HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE LEVEL ON SITE. | 3.62 |
| 3 | NEED MORE MANAGEMENT & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUAL INDIANS PRO- VIDED FARMERS AND THEIR TRIBES FOR EXAMPLE LIKE EXTENSION'S PARAPROFES- SIONALS OR BY CONTRACT SERVICES. | 3.57 |
| 4 | NEED TO INCREASE EXCHANGE OF INFORMA- TION ON SUCCESSFUL PROGRAMS BETWEEN TRIBES USING TRIBAL COORDINATORS. | 3.50 |
| 5 | GUIDELINES FOR BORROWING MONEY TO RESTRICTIVE AND ESPECIALLY FOR INDI- VIDUALS AND WITH TRUST LAND. | 3.43 |
| 6 | EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF USING LOCAL INDIAN PARA-PROFESSIONALS AND FUNDING FOR INDIAN EXTENSION PROGRAMS. | 3.43 |
| 7 | WE RECOMMEND THE LAND ACQUISITION FUNDING OF FMHA SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO INDIVIDUAL INDIANS, WITHIN TRIBES, PURCHASES TO CONTINUE OR PLACE IN TRUST ON FORMER TRUST LAND TO BE PLACED IN TRUST, EXTEND TO INCLUDE FEE LAND, PROVIDED FURTHER THAT INDIVI- DUALS PURCHASING OR SELLING RESERVA- | 3.23 |

TION LAND SHOULD HAVE APPROVAL OF THE TRIBAL GOVERNMENT. THIS MAY REQUIRE NEW LEGISLATION.

- | | | |
|----|---|------|
| 8 | NEED ALLOCATION OF WATER FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF FARM LAND WITH MORE RESEARCH ON DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY EFFICIENT IRRIGATION SYSTEMS. WE RECOMMEND A NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR INDIVIDUAL AND TRIBAL FARMING. | 3.15 |
| 9 | USDA & LENDING INSTITUTIONS NEED TO BE MORE SENSITIVE TO INDIANS. | 3.14 |
| 10 | RECOMMEND ESTABLISHMENT OF INDIAN AGRICULTURE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR THE STUDY OF AG-RELATED VOCATIONAL TRAINING WITH HANDS ON APPLICATION. | 3.14 |
| 11 | ASCS SHOULD HAVE MORE CONTACT WITH INDIVIDUAL TRIBES AND GEAR INFORMATION TO INDIAN FARM PROCEDURES. | 3.14 |
| 12 | ESTABLISH INDIAN FARM COORDINATORS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL AS DETERMINED BY EACH TRIBE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION CONCERNING ALL ECONOMIC PROGRAMS INDIVIDUAL OR TRIBAL AVAILABLE. | 3.07 |
| 13 | RECOMMEND FMHA TARGET FUNDS BE A HIGHER PERCENTAGE FOR INDIANS AND MORE LOCAL INPUT. | 3.00 |
| 14 | RECOMMEND INTEREST SUBSIDY ON GUARANTEED LOAN PROGRAMS AND DEFERRED GRADUATED PAYMENTS FOR INDIANS. EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF TAX EXEMPT INTEREST ON B&I LOANS. | 3.00 |
| 15 | EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF GETTING SPECIAL FUNDING TO EXTEND EXTENSION PROGRAMS TO THE TOTAL INDIAN AUDIENCE. THE LOCAL AREA, INCLUDING SHORT | 3.00 |
| 16 | LACK OF DEPENDABLE PRICE FORECASTING AND LACK OF REASONABLE MARKET ACCESS BOTH REGIONAL AND EXPORT. EXTENSION SHOULD EXPAND MARKETING INFORMATION TO INDIAN FARM PRODUCERS. | 3.93 |
| 17 | RE-ESTABLISH INDIAN AGRICULTURE VO-TECH SCHOOLS WITH EMPHASIS GEARED TO HANDS-ON-TRAINING. | 2.69 |
| 18 | RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN HOME AND FARM MANAGEMENT TO INCLUDE SHORT COURSES TO BE INCLUDED IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS. | 2.37 |



American Indian and Alaska Native Agricultural Conference

WORKING GROUP V ACQUACULTURE

| <u>PROBLEM RANK</u> | <u>PROBLEM DESCRIPTION</u> | <u>AVERAGE PROBLEM RATING</u> |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | ACCESS TO CAPITAL. | 4.31 |
| 2 | IMPROVED LAND MANAGEMENT. | 4.15 |
| 3 | MECHANISM TO FORM COOPERATIVES. | 4.15 |
| 4 | INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION. | 4.08 |
| 5 | INTERTRIBAL COOPERATION. | 4.00 |
| 6 | INDIAN REPRESENTATION ON POLICY BODIES | 4.00 |
| 7 | INSUFFICIENT LAW ENFORCEMENT FOR NATURAL RESOURCES. | 4.00 |
| 8 | BETTER PUBLIC RELATIONS. | 3.92 |
| 9 | MORE AND CONTINUING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT. | 3.92 |
| 10 | GOVERNMENT-INDUCED DIVISIVENESS AND POLICY OF COLONIALISM. | 3.92 |
| 11 | IDENTIFY INDIAN AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS | 3.92 |
| 12 | ASSESS NEEDS FOR TECHNICAL ASSIS- TANCE AND EDUCATION. | 3.85 |
| 13 | IMPROVEMENT IN WATER QUALITY AND AVAILABILITY. | 3.85 |

ACQUACULTURE (Cont'd)

| | | |
|----|--|------|
| 14 | NATIONAL COMMITMENT TO AQUACULTURE. | 3.77 |
| 15 | CONTINUITY OF LABOR AND JOB OPPORTUNITY FOR INDIANS. | 3.56 |
| 16 | INVENTORY OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO AQUACULTURE. | 3.54 |
| 17 | CONSUMERS AND FISH MARKET DEVELOPMENT | 3.38 |
| 18 | DEVELOP ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF CHEAPER ENERGY. | 3.38 |
| 19 | COMPETITION WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR | 3.33 |
| 20 | NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF TRIBAL GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE. | 3.25 |
| 21 | MORE INTER-TRIBAL COMMUNICATION. | 3.15 |



American Indian and Alaska Native Agricultural Conference

WORKING GROUP VI HORTICULTURE

| PROBLEM RANK | PROBLEM DESCRIPTION | AVERAGE PROBLEM RATING |
|-----------------|---|------------------------------|
| 1 | NEED FOR COMMITTED, SKILLED, MOTIVATED LABOR. | 4.75 |
| 2 | NEED TO INVESTIGATE, DEVELOP AND PROMOTE ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF ENERGY AND APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY. | 4.75 |
| 3 | HIGH COST OF FUEL USED IN GREENHOUSES. | 4.67 |
| 4 | DUE TO RISING FUEL COSTS FEDERAL GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO ENCOURAGE DECENTRALIZED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL MARKETING SYSTEMS. | 4.50 |
| 5 | FEDERAL FUNDING SHOULD BE MADE FOR THE LIFE OF PROJECTS--NOT ON A YEAR TO YEAR BASIS. | 4.50 |
| 6 | FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAMS TOO OFTEN EMPHASIZE JUST PAYING WAGES--NOT TEACHING SKILLS. CETA IS A SPECIAL PROBLEM IN THIS RESPECT. | 4.25 |
| 7 | NEED BETTER COORDINATION BETWEEN FEDERAL PROGRAMS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES ON NATIVE LANDS. | 4.25 |
| 8 | COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT TAKING PRIME AGRICULTURAL LAND. | 4.25 |
| 9 | NEED IMPROVED WAYS OF FINANCING GREENHOUSES AND HORTICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ON NATIVE LANDS. | 4.25 |

HORTICULTURE (Cont'd)

| | | |
|----|--|------|
| 10 | NEED TO INVESTIGATE POTENTIALS OF INTERTRIBAL AGREEMENTS: MARKETING/ BARTARING SYSTEMS, TRAINING, INFORMATION CLEARING HOUSES. | 4.25 |
| 11 | VOLUME AND QUALITY OF WATER ARE NOT ALWAYS ADEQUATE. | 4.00 |
| 12 | COST OF TRANSPORTATION. | 4.00 |
| 13 | FOREIGN COMPETITION SEVERE, DUE TO LOW LABOR COSTS IN MEXICO. | 4.00 |
| 14 | MARKETING IS A PROBLEM, ESPECIALLY SINCE VEGETABLES OFTEN CAN'T BE HELD UNTIL MARKET IMPROVES. | 4.00 |
| 15 | FARMING METHODS AND TECHNIQUES ARE DESTROYING FARMLAND. | 4.00 |
| 16 | SENATE NEEDS TO PASS DECONCINI BILL ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF JOJOBA ON NATIVE LANDS. | 3.75 |
| 17 | RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IS NEEDED ON NEW CROPS AND IMPROVED FARMING TECHNOLOGIES. | 3.75 |
| 18 | POOR ADMINISTRATION AT LOCAL LEVEL OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS SOMETIMES CAUSES PROBLEMS. | 3.00 |
| 19 | NEED ADEQUATE STORAGE FACILITIES FOR SUPPLIES. | 2.75 |
| 20 | INSECT AND DISEASE PROBLEMS IN GREENHOUSES--AND NEED FOR TRAINED PEOPLE TO TREAT THEM. | 2.75 |

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